

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-38, and 43-60 are currently pending. Claims 1, 11, 13, 18, 21, 24, 26, 29-33, 43, 45, 48, and 53 have been amended. Applicants acknowledge and appreciate the Examiner's indication that Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-32, 36-38, 43-52, and 55-60 contain allowable subject matter.

The Examiner objected to the abstract for failing to commence on a separate page.

Applicants have included a new Abstract to be included on a separate page following the claims.

The Examiner objected to Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-38, and 43-60 for various matters of form, such as spelling, punctuation, and antecedent basis. Applicants have amended Claims 1, 11, 13, 18, 21, 24, 26, 29-33, 43, 45, 48, and 53 to overcome the Examiner's objections. As such, Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-32, 36-38, and 43-60 are allowable.

The Examiner rejected Claims 33-35 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 33 has been amended to clarify its meaning. The amended claim is intended to refer to the fact that each pipe is a part of a number of pipe tree branches, and that for each individual pipe, the through flow of every pipe tree branch of which that pipe is a member is to be summed.

In light of the foregoing, Claim 33 and Claims 34-35 that depend therefrom are allowable.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments and allowance of Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-38, and 43-60.

Respectfully submitted,



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Docket No.: 063511-9052-00
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